

SOCIETY REPORT

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.

A meeting of the Academy was held on the evening of July 28th, at which the following program was given.

1. Two unusual Cases of Asthma. H. I. Wiel. Description of Surgical Procedure in one of these Cases. L. Eloesser.

2. The Toxic Effect of Salvarsan. G. E. Ebright. Discussed by L. Schmitt, R. Brooke and Harry E. Alderson.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

General Meeting, Tuesday, June 10th.

1. Intestinal Bilharziasis. (Illustrated by Specimens.) Herbert Gunn.

2. Coccidioidal Granuloma—A Case Report. (Demonstration of Specimens.) W. T. Cummins and G. R. Carson.

3. Report of Case of Coccidioidal Granuloma. P. K. Brown. Discussed by Douglas W. Montgomery, P. K. Brown and W. T. Cummins.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY.

The regular monthly meeting of the San Joaquin County Medical Society was held June 27th at the Dameron Hospital. The following members were present: Drs. C. F. English, J. D. Dameron, H. E. Sanderson, Mary Taylor, B. F. Walker, C. R. Harry, L. R. Johnson, Hudson Smythe, L. Dozier and R. T. McGurk, with Dr. Davison as guest.

A paper entitled "The Laboratory and Its Uses to the Physician" was read by Dr. L. Dozier. The subject is a very interesting one and the paper was greatly enjoyed by the members. Dr. Dozier gave a very excellent résumé of the various laboratory methods and concluded with his own deductions as to the value of each, bringing out especially the value of the Wassermann, and also reminding the members of the advisability of Retinoscopy as a final check in suspected syphilitic lesions.

After the discussion of Dr. Dozier's paper, the society took up the question of the city bacteriologist, of which this city is greatly in need. Every one agreed that time would so emphasize the necessity of this position so emphatically that it would finally be created.

There being nothing more to come before the meeting, the society adjourned, the next meeting to be held the last Friday in September.

R. T. MCGURK, Secretary.

ST. FRANCIS CLINICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting was held on the evening of Friday, July 25th, at which the following program was given:

1. Presentation of a Case of Fistula of Labyrinth (due to tubercle bacillus).

2. Case of Spontaneous Gangrene, or Raynaud's Disease. Dr. W. B. Coffey.

3. Some Observations on the Use of Phylacogens in the Treatment of Surgical Infections. Dr. B. F. Alden.

4. Clinical Observations on the Use of Phylacogens. Dr. W. B. Coffey.

Discussed by Drs. Artigues, Fischer, Bacigalupi, Spiro, Rothschild, Gardner, Hogan, O'Connor, Austin, Wymore, Alden, and Coffey.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

BOOK REVIEWS

The Diseases of the Rectum and Pelvic Colon.

By Martin L. Bodkin, M. D. E. B. Treat & Co., New York. Price \$3.50.

In these times of deluge of medical books, there seem to be three reasons for publishing things: firstly, to advertise the author; secondly, to keep the publisher's literary pot a-boiling; and thirdly, because the author really has something worth while to give to the world. If only the last reason prevailed we should be spared numerous publications that merely serve to litter the shelves of the too credulous doctor. The book in question seems to be one of this class. It does not fill any long-felt want nor does it tell us anything that has not been told before. We cannot recommend it to the medical profession. A. N.

Wayside Experiences. A collection of plain tales as heard along the road. By C. Elton Blanchard, M. D.; 246 pages; cloth bound. Price \$1.25. Physicians' Drug News, Publishers, Newark, N. J.

In a genial, pleasant, conversational way Dr. Blanchard has gathered a dozen little tales of the intimate things of life as seen by the physician with a philosophic turn of mind and a certain amount of literary ability. They are agreeable reading: amusing, instructive and occasionally give food for thought. Eugenics, right living, good moral standards, a developed sense of responsibility, are all neatly brought out and constitute the moral that adorns the tale. The time spent in looking through this little book will be thoroughly enjoyed. G. H. T.

A System of Surgery. In three volumes. By Choyce and Beattie. Published by Funk & Wagnalls. Pacific Coast agents, Stacey & Waite, 405 Van Ness avenue.

This work is one of those that revives one's faith in text-books. The ground covered includes in Vol. I surgical pathology and general surgery. Vols. II and III "are mainly occupied with a systematic description of surgical diseases and conditions, including preparation of the patient for operation and after treatment." The authors are mostly British and there is frequent reference to other authorities, American, German and French. The bibliography is very complete in each section. The illustrations are very numerous and especially those of the pathological specimens are excellently executed, original and instructive. It is also from the point of view of pathology that this work appeals so strongly.

The work does not claim to be and is not a manual of surgery considered from the technical aspect. It is a book in which one finds surgery discussed as a mode of treatment with especial reference to and emphasis on the pathology furnishing the surgical indications; and this is the feature that makes it as valuable and attractive to the student and general practitioner as to the surgeon *per se*.

The chapter on tumors furnishes a very acceptable link between the evidence as derived from the patient and the knowledge elaborated in the laboratory.

The sections devoted to the gastro-intestinal tract are very fine examples of the correlation of the physiology and pathology with the rationale of the surgical treatment.

For those interested in surgery, either as surgeons or as internists, these volumes will richly repay their perusal.

The style is clear, concise and the book is a practical one in every way. G. H. T.